

Message Text

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USUN NEW YORK 1658

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 2088

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS BIOGRAPHIC REPORT

1. ETHIOPIAN AND OAU DELEGATIONS TO LOS CONFERENCE HAVE NOT YET BEEN FULLY DESIGNATED.

2. ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION WILL CONSIST OF NAVY COMMANDER HAILU MAKONNEN AND ONE OR POSSIBLY TWO OTHER MEMBERS. COMMANDER HAILU HOLDS A LAW DEGREE FROM HAILE SELASSIE I UNIVERSITY AND A MASTER'S DEGREE IN LAW FROM UCLA (1968). HAILU IS EPMG'S LEADING AUTHORITY ON RED SEA AND INDIAN OCEAN. HE IS THOUGHTFUL AND REFLECTIVE AND WILL TALK FRANKLY AND IN DEPTH. COMMANDER HAILU ALSO PARTICIPATED IN CARACAS LOS CONFERENCE WHERE US DELEGATION HAS FOUND HIM MOST INTELLIGENT AND COOPERATIVE.

3. KEY MEMBER OF OAU LOS DELEGATION WILL BE E.O. EGBUNIKI (NIGERIAN) WHO IS OAU LEGAL ADVISOR. EGBUNIKI IS A TRAINED LAWYER AND TAKES LOS PROBLEMS VERY SERIOUSLY. HE IS SOMEWHAT CHAGRINED AND DISGUSTED BY FAILURE OF OAU AND AFRICAN STATES IN GENERAL TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO LOS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL LAW MATTERS. EGBUNIKI SERVED UNTIL 1974 AS PART OF NIGERIA'S PERMANENT UN MISSION (LAGOS AND USUN MAY HAVE FURTHER DATA ON CONFIDENTIAL

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HIM).

4. RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOS WITHIN OAU SECRETARIAT IS DIVIDED BETWEEN LEGAL OFFICE AND SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL DEPARTMENT. SINCE THE CARACAS CONFERENCE LAST SUMMER, OAU HAS FAILED TO FOCUS ANY CONCERTED ATTENTION ON LOS. IN FACT, OAU DELEGATES' REPORT ON CARACAS CONFERENCE, WHICH WAS TO BE PREPARED BY OAU NEW YORK MISSION CHIEF OUATTARA, HAS NOT YET BEEN SUBMITTED TO SECRETARIAT.

5. EGBUNIKI, WHO WILL ARRIVE AT LOS CONFERENCE IN GENEVA AFTER IT HAS BEGUN, WELCOMES THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS LOS DETAILS WITH US DELEGATION. WE HAVE FOUND EGBUNIKI TO BE RECEPTIVE AND HELPFUL.
WYMAN

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